



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Joseph A. Zupanick
Serial No. : 10/630,345
Filed : July 29, 2003
Title : METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ACCESSING SUBTERRANEAN DEPOSITS
FROM THE SURFACE AND TOOLS THEREFOR

Art Unit : 3673
Examiner : John J. Kreck

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

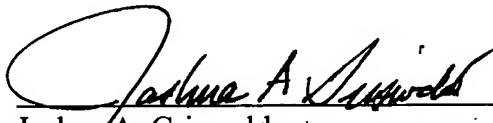
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant requests consideration of the references listed on the attached PTO-1449 form. Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(ii), only copies of foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed. Copies of any listed U.S. patents, U.S. patent publications, or U.S. patent applications can be provided upon request. A copy of a communication from a foreign patent office in a related application is also enclosed.

This statement is being filed after a first Office action on the merits, but before receipt of a final Office action or a Notice of Allowance. A check for \$180 in payment of the late submission fee of §1.17(p) is enclosed. Please apply any deficiencies or any other required fees or any credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing the attorney docket number shown above.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/21/06


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Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified) Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) FEB 21 2006 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE (b)	U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office	Attorney's Docket No. 17601-043001	Application No. 10/630,345
		Applicant Joseph A. Zupanick	
		Filing Date July 29, 2003	Group Art Unit 3673

U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	A1	2,934,904	05/03/1960	H.V. Hendrix			
	A2	3,163,211	12/29/1964	D.H. Henley			
	A3	3,578,077	05/11/1971	Glenn, Jr. et al.			
	A4	3,763,652	10/09/1973	Rinta			
	A5	4,662,440	05/05/1987	Harmon et al.			
	A6	4,676,313	06/30/1987	Rinaldi			
	A7	4,705,109	11/10/1987	Ledent et al.			
	A8	4,718,485	01/12/1988	Brown et al.			
	A9	4,727,937	03/01/1988	Shum et al.			
	A10	Re. 32,623	03/15/1988	Marshall et al.			
	A11	4,754,808	07/05/1988	Harmon et al.			
	A12	5,016,709	05/21/1991	Combe et al.			
	A13	5,033,550	07/23/1991	Johnson et al.			
	A14	5,115,872	05/26/1992	Brunet et al.			
	A15	5,289,888	03/01/1994	Talley			
	A16	5,343,965	09/06/1994	Talley et al.			
	A17	5,941,307	08/24/1999	Tubel			
	A18	5,944,107	08/31/1999	Ohmer			
	A19	5,988,278	11/23/1999	Johnson			
	A20	5,992,524	11/30/1999	Graham			
	A21	6,079,495	06/27/2000	Ohmer			
	A22	6,089,322	07/18/2000	Kelley et al.			
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	A25	6,199,633 B1	03/13/2001	Longbottom			
	A26	6,247,532 B1	06/19/2001	Ohmer			
	A27	6,263,965 B1	07/24/2001	Schmidt et al.			

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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U.S. Patent Documents							
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If Appropriate
	A28	6,283,216 B1	09/04/2001	Ohmer			
	A29	6,318,457 B1	11/20/2001	Den Boer et al.			
	A30	6,470,978 B2	10/29/2002	Trueman et al.			
	A31	6,491,101 B2	12/10/2002	Ohmer			
	A32	6,554,063 B2	04/29/2003	Ohmer			
	A33	6,557,628 B2	05/06/2003	Ohmer			
	A34	6,564,867 B2	05/20/2003	Ohmer			
	A35	6,968,893 B2	11/29/2005	Rusby et al.			
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Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications								
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document Number	Publication Date	Country or Patent Office	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	B1	WO 98/25005	06/11/1998	WIPO			N/A	
	B2	WO 2005/003509 A1	01/13/2005	WIPO			N/A	

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	C1	Dreiling, Tim, McClelland, M.L. and Bilyeu, Brad, "Horizontal & High Angle Air Drilling in the San Juan Basin, New Mexico," Believed to be dated April 1996, pp. 1-11
	C2	Robert E. Snyder, "Drilling Advances," WORLD OIL, October 2003, 1 page
	C3	Daniel J. Brunner, Jeffrey J. Schwoebel, and Scott Thomson, "Directional Drilling for Methane Drainage & Exploration in Advance of Mining," Website: http://www.advminingtech.com.au/Paper4.htm , printed April 6, 2005, Copyright 1999, Last modified August 7, 2002 (8 pages)
	C4	Karen Bybee, highlights of paper SPE 84424, "Coalbed-Methane Reservoir Simulation: An Evolving Science," by T.L. Hower, JPT Online, April 2004, Website: http://www.spe.org/spe/jpt/jsp/jptpapersynopsis/0.2439.1104_11038_2354946_2395832.00.html , printed April 14, 2005, 4 pages
	C5	Kevin Meaney and Lincoln Paterson, "Relative Permeability in Coal," SPE 36986, Society of Petroleum Engineers, Copyright 1996, pp. 231-236
	C6	Calendar of Events – Conference Agenda, Fifth Annual Unconventional Gas and Coalbed Methane Conference, October 22-24, 2003, in Calgary Alberta, Website: http://www.csug.ca/cal/cal0301a.html , printed March 17, 2005, 5 pages

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	Applicant Joseph A. Zupanick			
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Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	C7	Tom Engler and Kent Perry, "Creating a Roadmap for Unconventional Gas R&D," Gas TIPS, Fall 2002, pp. 16-20
	C8	CSIRO Petroleum – SIMEDWin, "Summary of SIMEDWin Capabilities," Copyright 1997-2005, Website: http://www.dpr.csiro.au/ourcapabilities/petroleumgeoengineering/reservoirengineering/projects/simedwin/assets/simed/index.html , printed March 17, 2005, 10 pages
	C9	Solutions From the Field, "Coalbed Methane Resources in the Southeast," Copyright 2004, Website: http://www.pttc.org/solutions/sol_2004/537.htm , printed March 17, 2005, 7 pages
	C10	Jeffrey R. Levine, Ph.D., "Matrix Shrinkage Coefficient," Undated, 3 pages
	C11	G. Twombly, S.H. Stepanek, T.A. Moore, "Coalbed Methane Potential in the Waikato Coalfield of New Zealand: A Comparison With Developed Basins in the United States, 2004 New Zealand Petroleum Conference Proceedings, March 7-10, 2004, pp. 1-6
	C12	R.W. Cade, "Horizontal Wells: Development and Applications," Presented at the Fifth International Symposium on Geophysics for Mineral, Geotechnical and Environmental Applications, October 24-28, 1993 in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Website: http://www.mgls.org/93Sym/Cade/cade.html , printed March 17, 2005, 6 pages
	C13	Solutions From the Field, "Horizontal Drilling, A Technology Update for the Appalachian Basin," Copyright 2004, Website: http://www.pttc.org/solutions/sol_2004/535.htm , printed March 17, 2005, 6 pages
	C14	R. Purl, J.C. Evanoff and M.L. Brugler, "Measurement of Coal Cleat Porosity and Relative Permeability Characteristics," SPE 21491, Society of Petroleum Engineers, Copyright 1991, pp. 93-104
	C15	Peter Jackson, "Drilling Technologies for Underground Coal Gasification," IMC Geophysics Ltd., International UCG Workshop – October 2003 (20 pages)
	C16	Notification of Transmittal of the International Search Report and the Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority, or the Declaration (3 pages), International Search Report (3 pages) and Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority (5 pages) re International Application No. PCT/US2005/002162 mailed April 22, 2005
	C17	Notification of Transmittal of the International Search Report and the Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority, or the Declaration (3 pages), International Search Report (3 pages) and Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority (5 pages) re International Application No. PCT/US2005/005289 mailed April 29, 2005
	C18	Notification of Transmittal of the International Search Report and the Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority, or the Declaration (3 pages), International Search Report (5 pages) and Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority (5 pages) re International Application No. PCT/US2004/036616 mailed February 24, 2005
	C19	Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (1 page) and International Preliminary Examination Report (3 pages) for International Application No. PCT/US03/13954 mailed April 14, 2005

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		Applicant Joseph A. Zupanick	
		Filing Date July 29, 2003	Group Art Unit 3673

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)		
Examiner Initial	Desig. ID	Document
	C20	Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (1 page) and International Preliminary Examination Report (5 pages) mailed January 18, 2005 and Written Opinion (8 pages) mailed August 25, 2005 for International Application No. PCT/US03/30126
	C21	Notification of Transmittal of the International Search Report or the Declaration (3 pages) and International Search Report (5 pages) mailed November 10, 2000 for International Application No. PCT/US99/27494
	C22	Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (1 page) and International Preliminary Examination Report (6 pages) mailed April 2, 2001 and Written Opinion (7 pages) mailed September 27, 2000 for International Application No. PCT/US99/27494
	C23	Notification of Transmittal of the International Search Report or the Declaration (3 pages) and International Search Report (5 pages) mailed June 6, 2002 for International Application No. PCT/US02/02051
	C24	Notification of Transmittal of the International Search Report or the Declaration (3 pages) and International Search Report (6 pages) mailed March 13, 2003 for International Application No. PC/US02/33128
	C25	Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (1 page) and International Preliminary Examination Report (3 pages) mailed April 22, 2004 and Written Opinion (6 pages) mailed September 4, 2003 for International Application No. PCT/US02/33128
	C26	Notes on Consol Presentation (by P. Thakur) made at IOGA PA in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on May 22, 2002 (3 pages)
	C27	Notification of Transmittal of the International Preliminary Report of Patentability (1 page) and International Preliminary Report on Patentability (12 pages) mailed January 9, 2006 for International Application No. PCT/US2004/036616
	C28	Notification Concerning Transmittal of Copy of International Preliminary Report on Patentability (Chapter 1 of the Patent Cooperation Treaty) (1 page), International Preliminary Report on Patentability (1 page), and Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority (7 pages) mailed December 22, 2005 for International Application No. PCT/US2004/017048
	C29	European Search and Examination Report, completed December 5, 2005 for Application Number EP 05020737, 5 pages
	C30	P.C. Thakur and W.N. Poundstone, "Horizontal Drilling Technology for Advance Degasification," Society of Mining Engineers of AIME, Preprint Number 79-113, For presentation at the 1979 AIME Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, February 18-22, 1979, Engineering Societies Library stamp dated February 5, 1980, 11 pages

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